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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/057,946	01/29/2002	Yoshitaka Sasaki	111836	3599
25944	7590	01/13/2004		
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			EXAMINER TUGBANG, ANTHONY D	
			ART UNIT 3729	PAPER NUMBER
			DATE MAILED: 01/13/2004 <i>9</i>	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/057,946

Applicant(s)

SASAKI ET AL

Examiner

A. Dexter Tugbang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Upon further consideration by the examiner, the previous restriction requirement is hereby withdrawn in view of the following.

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-3, 8 and 10-18, drawn to a magnetic head, classified in class 360, subclass 126.
- II. Claims 4-7, 9 and 19-32, drawn to a process of making a magnetic head, classified in class 29, subclass 603.07.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

3. Inventions of Groups II and I are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case, product of Group I can be made by a materially different process, such as one that forms the slider or recording head section jointly or integrally with the reproducing head section, as opposed to separately, or one that forms electromagnetic transducer before forming the conductor.

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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5. If applicants' elect the invention of Group II, restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- A. Claims 5, 21, and 22, drawn to forming a plurality of recording and reproducing heads, classified in class 29, subclass 603.07.
- B. Claims 6 and 9, drawn to forming a conductor and a thin film coil connected to the conductor, classified in class 29, subclass 603.23.
- C. Claims 7 and 20, drawn to forming a magnetoresistive element, classified in class 29, subclass 610.1.
- D. Claims 23-25, drawn to a process of lapping a first medium of the slider, classified in class 29, subclass 603.12.
- E. Claims 26 and 27, drawn to providing an adhesive, classified in class 29, subclass 603.2.
- F. Claims 28-32, drawn to removing a wafer by grinding the wafer, classified in class 29, subclass 603.17.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

6. Inventions of Groups A-F within the invention of Group II are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, each of the inventions of Groups A-F have separate utility as one, by itself, as recited above. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

7. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and:
the search required for Group A is not required for Groups B, C, D, E and F;

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the search required for Group B, is not required for Groups A, C, D, E and F;

the search required for Group C, is not required for Groups A, B, D, E and F;

the search required for Group D, is not required for Groups A, B, C, E and F;

the search required for Group E, is not required for Groups A, B, C, D and F;

the search required for Group F, is not required for Groups A, B, C, D and E;

restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

8. Claim 4 link(s) the inventions of Groups A, B and C and Claim 19 link(s) the inventions of Groups A, C, D, E and F. The restriction requirement between the linked inventions is subject to the nonallowance of the linking claim(s), Claims 4 and 19. Upon the allowance of the linking claim(s), the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions shall be withdrawn and any claim(s) depending from or otherwise including all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) will be entitled to examination in the instant application. Applicant(s) are advised that if any such claim(s) depending from or including all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) is/are presented in a continuation or divisional application, the claims of the continuation or divisional application may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Where a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. *In re Ziegler*, 44 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

9. A telephone call was made to Ian R. Vallejo on January 8, 2004, to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

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Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).


10. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to A. Dexter Tugbang whose telephone number is 703-308-7599.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 703-308-1789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9302.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0858.


A. Dexter Tugbang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3729

January 12, 2004